

PALAWAN COUNCIL FOR
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



PCSD ANNUAL REPORT 2016

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I. ASSESSMENT

1. ASSESSMENT OF PHYSICAL VIS-À-VIS FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR

For 2016, the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD) and its technical staff (PCSDS) have continued to provide sustainable development policy and regulation services throughout the province of Palawan. The agency has a total budget of Php 84 million for the year. All performance indicators of PCSDS under its Major Final Outputs (MFOs) and General Administration and Support Services (GASS) have an accomplishment rate of over 100%. The figure below shows the major physical accomplishments of PCSDS vis-à-vis its financial accomplishments.

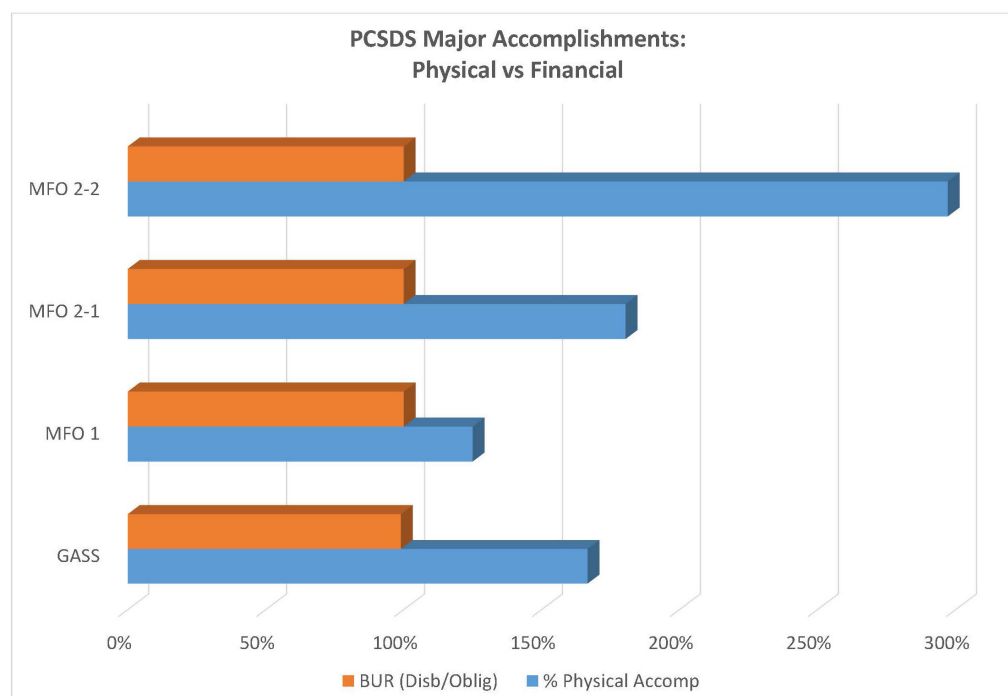


Figure 1. Comparison of Physical Accomplishment Rate and Budget Utilization Rate (Disbursement/Obligation).

For GASS, the average physical accomplishment rate for two performance indicators (PIs) is 167%, while the ratio of disbursements to obligations is 99%, indicating that almost the entire allotted budget was utilized. Under the MFO 1 or Palawan Sustainable Development Policy Services, the physical targets for two PIs were exceeded by an average of 25%, while the accomplishment of one indicator will be based on the Client Satisfaction Survey (CSS) to be conducted by an entity commissioned by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

In the operation of the Strategic Environmental Plan (SEP) Clearance System (MFO 2-1), the PCSDS accomplished an average of 180% in six PIs, while an average of 297% accomplishment rate was reached for the three PIs under the Implementation of Rules and Regulations (MFO 2-2). On the other hand, it can be noted that the budget utilization rate (BUR) in MFO 1, MFO 2-1, and MFO 2-2 have all reached 100%, which means all financial allotments were spent and utilized properly and according to schedule.

2. ASSESSMENT OF STAKEHOLDERS' RESPONSES: PARTICIPATION, COMPLIANCE, APPLICATION OR UTILIZATION OF OUTPUTS PROVIDED

In 2016, the PCSD, in partnership with the DENR, Provincial Government of Palawan (PGP), and civil society organizations (CSOs), conducted the Pre-Environmental Summit Stakeholders Consultation Workshops on four geographic clusters (Islands, North, South, and Central), in preparation to the Palawan Environmental Summit cum Planning Workshop held in November 2016. During these consultations, the participants representing the different sectors in Palawan provided a list of current issues and problems in terms of the environment and livelihood. The following figures show the issues and problems that need action/intervention by the PCSD and other agencies concerned.

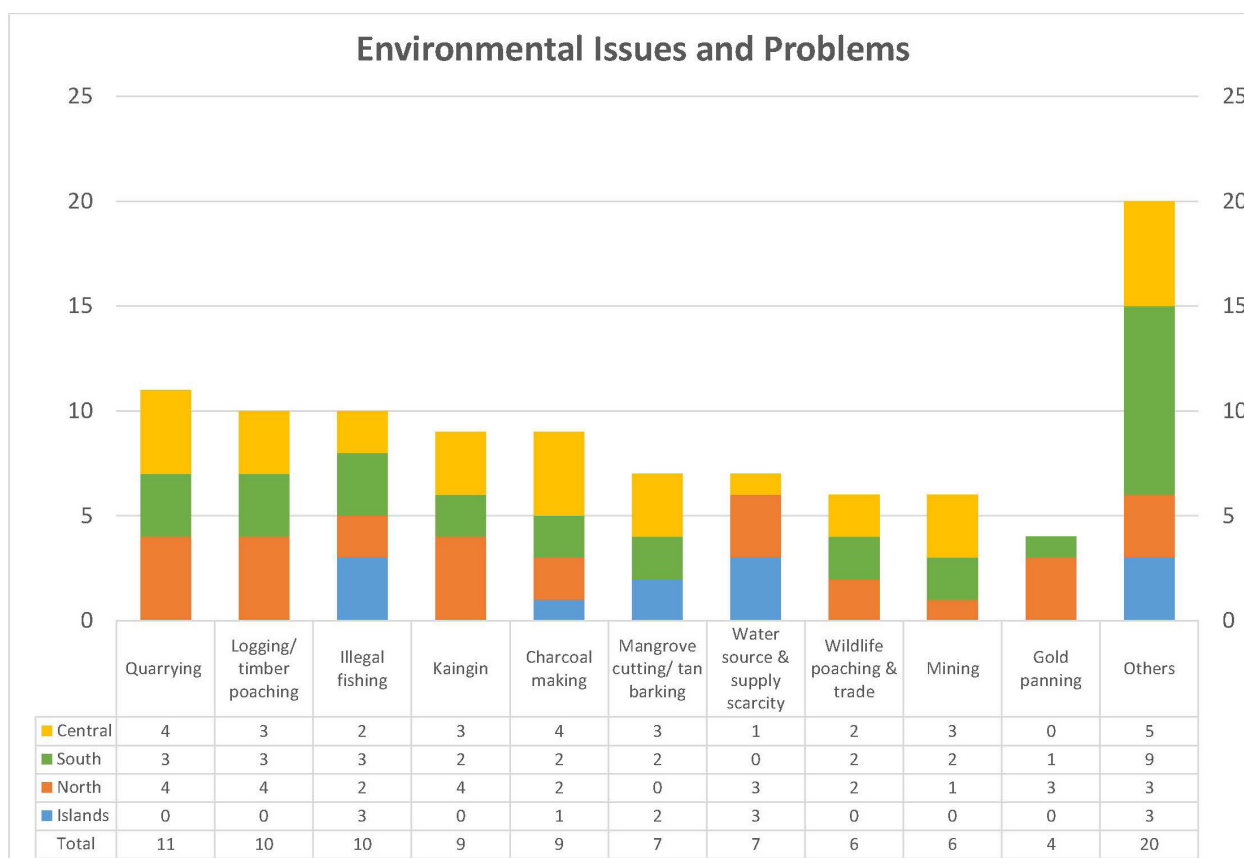


Figure 2. Environmental issues and problems identified during the 2016 Pre-Summit Consultation Workshops.

**The items in the Rows “Islands”, “North”, “South” and “Central” indicate the number of sector groups that identified the issue/problem during their respective cluster consultation.*

Figure 2 above illustrates the environmental issues and concerns identified by the stakeholders during the four cluster consultations, wherein “illegal fishing” and “charcoal making” are the issues listed by all geographic clusters, which could mean that these are the most common environmental issues in Palawan. Meanwhile, though not identified by all clusters, “quarrying” was the most common environmental issue among the sector groups of the Central, Northern, and Southern Palawan Clusters.

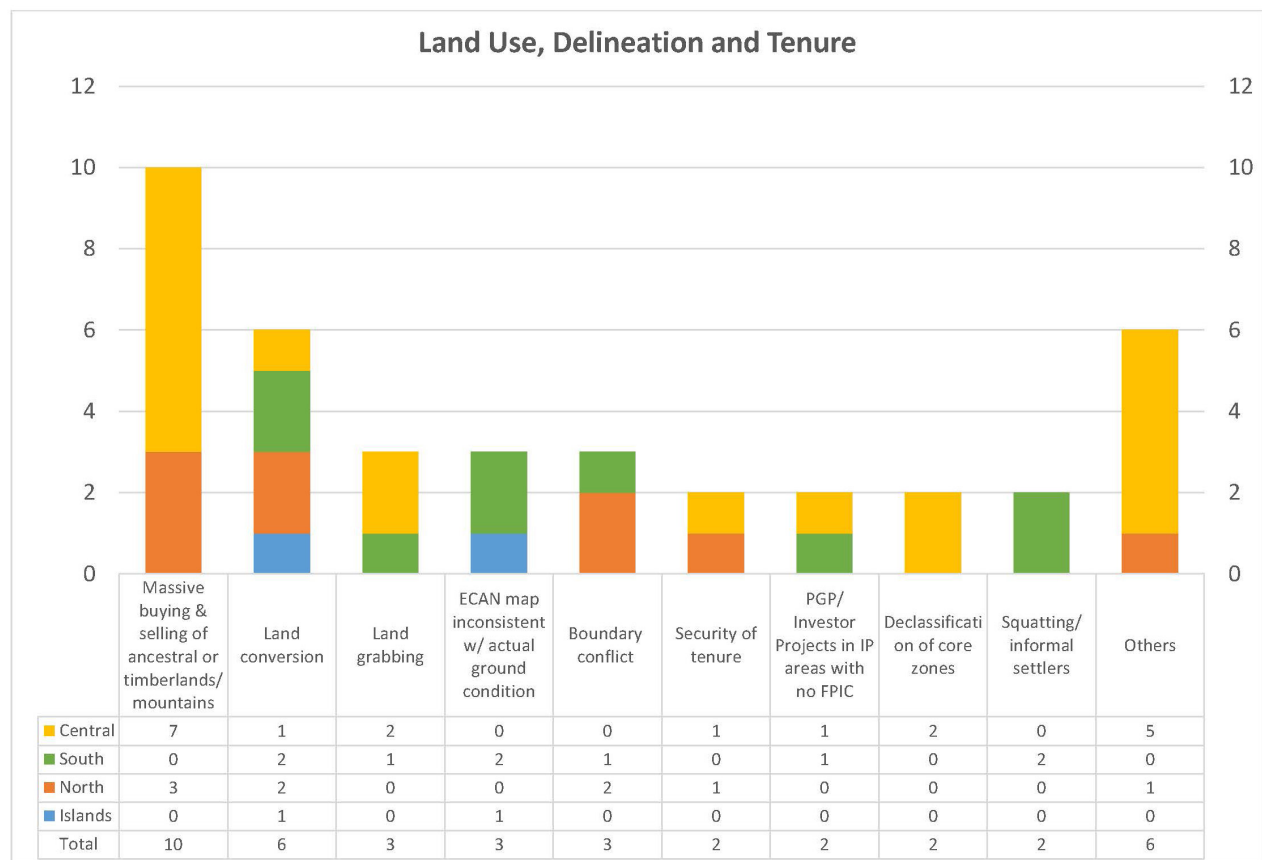


Figure 3. Identified issues and concerns on land use, delineation, and tenure during the 2016 Pre-Summit Consultation Workshops.

The total number of sector groups which included “land conversion” on its list of issues and problems is six (from all clusters), making it the most common issue pertaining to land use, delineation, and tenure. This refers to both terrestrial and coastal shift of land use, and include the conversion of mangrove areas to fishponds. On the other hand, the massive buying and selling of lands (ancestral/timberland) have become a major concern for several sectors in the Central and Northern Palawan. This include the unauthorized or uninformed buying and selling of ancestral domains, forests, and mountains.

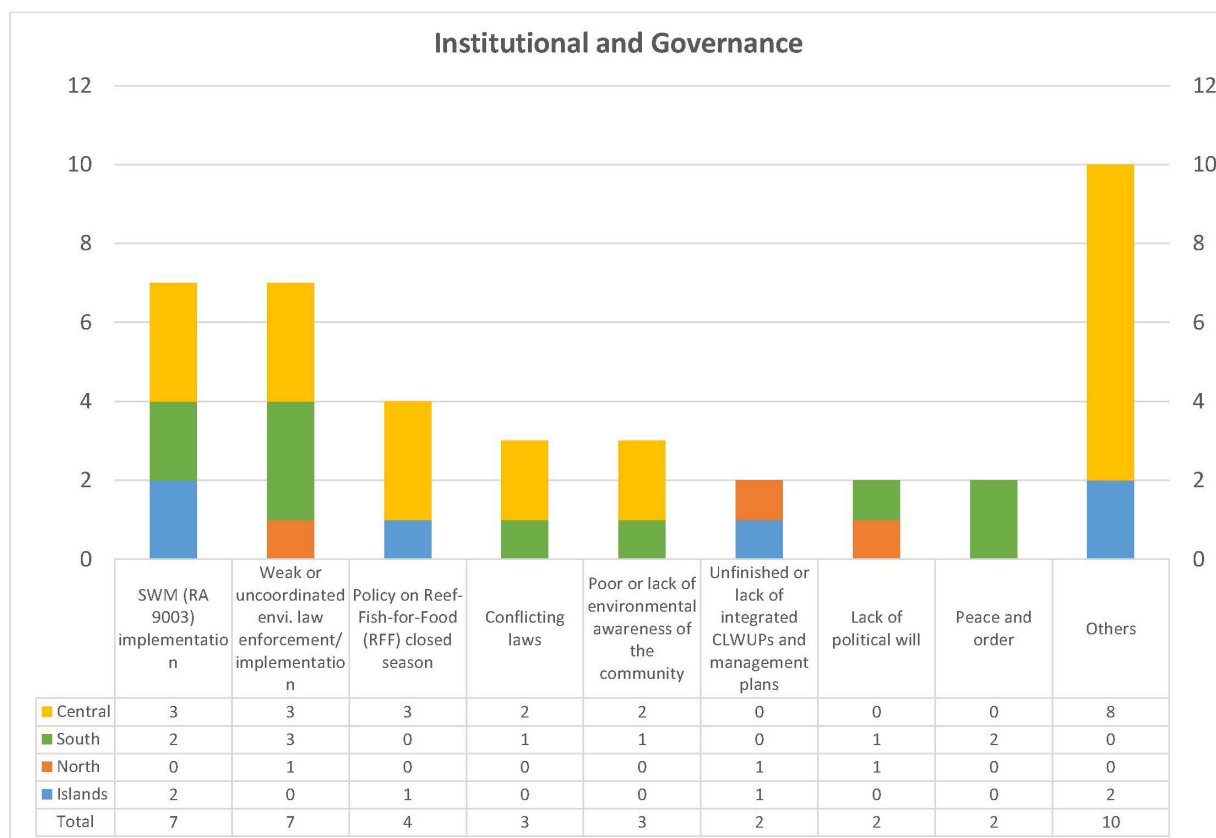


Figure 4. Institutional and governance issues and concerns identified in the 2016 Pre-Summit Consultation Workshops.

For institutional and governance concerns, it can be noted that the “weak or uncoordinated environmental law enforcement or implementation” and the “implementation of Republic Act No. 9003 (Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000)” are the most common issues among the stakeholders. Along with the policy issues on reef fish food (RFF) closed season, the three are the major institutional/governance concerns identified by stakeholders. This could mean that most sectors of stakeholders think the shortcomings of the government and institutions mainly lie on their failure to institute or implement effective laws and regulations.

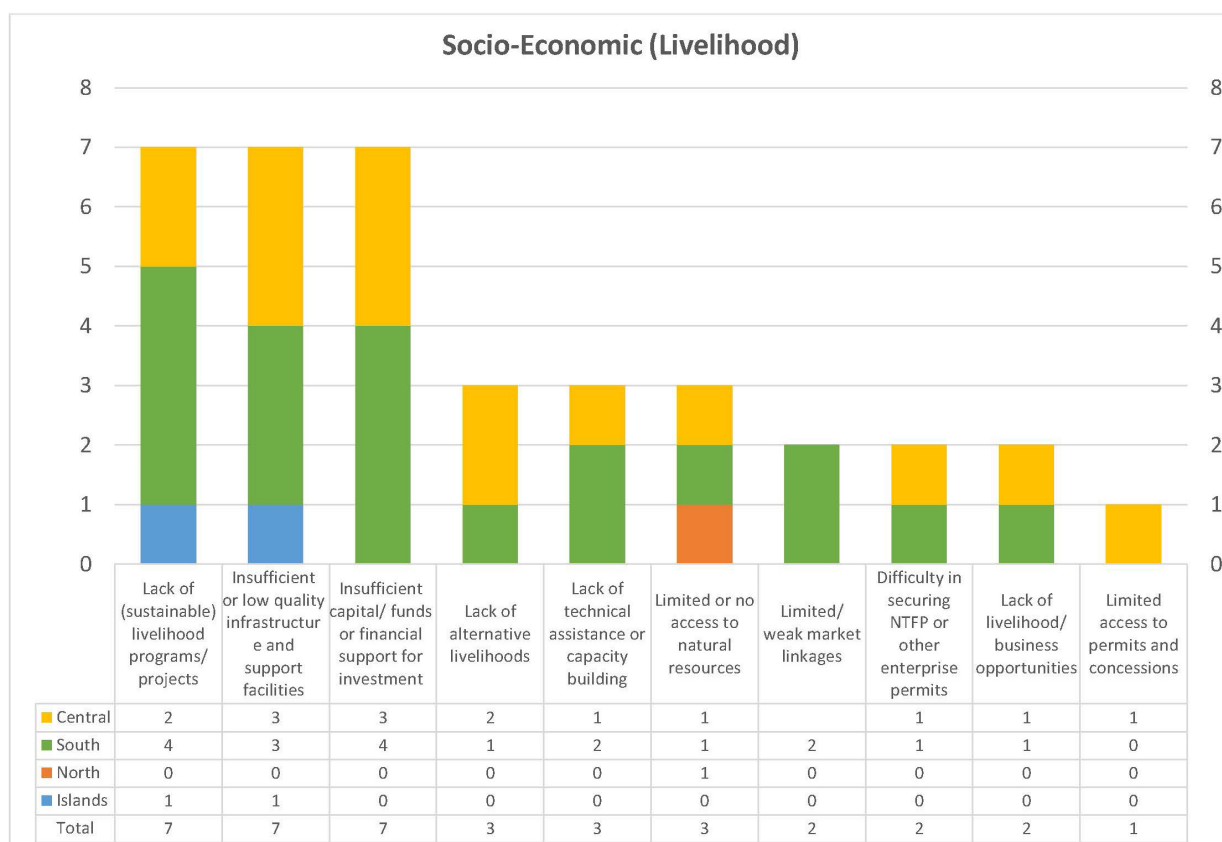


Figure 4. Socio-economic issues and concerns identified during the 2016 Pre-Summit Consultation Workshops.

The lack of sustainable livelihood programs and projects has been identified as a major socio-economic problem. Together with “insufficient or low quality infrastructure and support facilities” and “insufficient capital/funds”, these three are the most common socio-economic issues among sectors from Central and Southern Palawan, as well as from the island municipalities. It can also be observed that one sector group each from Northern, Southern, and Central Palawan have mentioned the absence or limited access of stakeholders to natural resources.

Based from the figures above, there are three issues identified by all four clusters, namely: (a) illegal fishing, (b) charcoal making, and (c) land conversion (including conversion of mangrove areas into fishponds). This could mean that these three are the most common environmental/livelihood problems the people of Palawan are currently facing. Among all the identified issues, quarrying was the most common issue as listed by sector groups in all clusters since 11 sector groups (three or four sector groups per cluster) in the Central, Northern, and Southern Palawan Clusters have included it in their list. This is followed by logging or timber poaching (identified by 10 sector groups in three clusters) and illegal fishing (identified by 10 sector groups in four clusters).

3. ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES AND CONCERNS

In its implementation of the Strategic Environmental Plan (SEP) for Palawan Act and other environmental laws and policies, the PCSD Staff have encountered several intra-office issues and problems in 2016. One major factor that has hindered the conduct of activities is the lack of available vehicle and/or driver. Though the agency currently possesses a total of 37 operational vehicles and motorcycles, simultaneous conduct of activities of different divisions often leads to a so-called **scramble** for available office transport services.

Another problem that the agency have encountered is the lack of adequate manpower and budget allocated for some activities under its operations, including the conduct of information, education and communication (IEC) campaigns, planning workshops, sustainable development forums and conferences, among others. Most of the divisions are shorthanded, with some staff performing dual functions to accomplish their target outputs and activities. Another solution, the hiring of additional staff to fill in the gaps in work, often clashes with budget constraints. Though partnerships with local government units (LGUs) and CSOs have helped the PCSDS in achieving its desired outputs, such arrangement often limits the scope (in terms of number or area) of the activities.

Major activities (workshops and forums) would often require digital cameras, voice recorders, LCD projectors, and other equipment for documentation and facilitation; thus, divisions with no such devices borrowed from other divisions. The simultaneous conduct of these activities by different divisions has also hindered the sharing of equipment.

Despite the aforementioned issues and concerns within the agency, the staff have managed to minimize their impacts to PCSD's performance through various ways. These include partnership with LGUs, CSOs, and national government agencies (NGAs) to co-finance or share in the activity logistics, equipment, and expenses. Simultaneous conduct of related activities in one area was also implemented to allow vehicle sharing for travel (e.g., joint travel of two divisions to one municipality, with one organizing a planning workshop and the other conducting an IEC campaign). It can be noted that more will be achieved at a greater and faster rate if the identified issues and problems were diminished, if not eliminated.

II. ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. POLICIES APPROVED AND IMPLEMENTED

1.1 Forum on Policy Implementation of Reef Fish-Food (RFF) Open and Closed Season

Two weeks before the commencement of closed season on RFF, an RFF Forum was organized and conducted by the PCSD Staff at the Citystate Asturias Hotel, Puerto Princesa City, on 31 May 2016.

Participants included RFF fishers, traders, breeders, carriers, and other stakeholders that will be affected by the policy. Representatives from LGUs and non-government organizations (NGOs) were also invited to present livelihood assistance and other opportunities available for affected stakeholders.



Executive Director Nelson Devanadera during the Policy Forum on RFF, with the theme: "Buhay-Buhay para sa Habang-buhay na Hanapbuhay."

Closed seasons prevent people from fishing at certain times of the year to protect red groupers at vulnerable times in their life cycle, such as during spawning seasons. Meanwhile, size limit is being imposed to allow species to reproduce before they are caught.

The implementation of the said policies on seasonal control and size limitation is expected to address the decline on fish catch of target grouper species, particularly the coral trout (*Plectropomus leopardus*).

1.2 Review of the Guidelines on the Delineation of the Environmentally Critical Areas Network (ECAN) Zones for Coastal/Marine Component

Following the conduct of the 1st iteration of the Coastal/Marine Component of the Strategic Environmental Plan (SEP) for Palawan Act, in the form of a stakeholders' consultation workshop held on August 2015, two meetings were conducted in 2016 to review the coastal ECAN guidelines.

The 2nd iteration, held on 12 February 2016, at Holy Trinity University (HTU) Sienatel, Barangay Tiniguiban, Puerto Princesa City, was conducted to evaluate and check the results of the first stakeholders' workshop, as well as to analyze the gaps of knowledge required in formulating a set of guidelines. A draft of the coastal ECAN guidelines was already prepared for adoption by the PCSD.

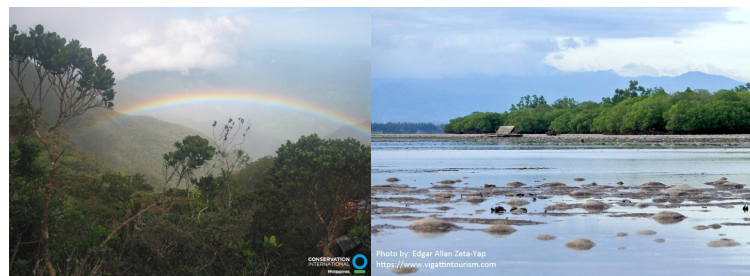
1.3 Other Policies Formulated

Additional policies developed include the following:

a. Policy Analyses on legislation of protected areas, consistent to the Strategic Environmental Plan (SEP) for Palawan Act. This is in support of the Expanded NIPAS (National Integrated Protected Areas System) which is part of the priority legislative agenda of the DENR and PCSDS. The agency prepared the policy analyses and drafted bills for the following protected areas in the province:

- Mount Mantalingahan Protected Landscape
- El Nido Managed Resource Protected Area

- Malampaya Sound Protected Landscape and Seascape
- Rasa Island Wildlife Sanctuary



(Left) Mount Mantalingahan Protected Landscape. (PHOTO/ Conservation International). (Right) Rasa Island Wildlife Sanctuary in Narra, Palawan. (PHOTO/ www.vigattintourism.com)

b. Policy and regulatory framework for Edible Bird's Nest (EBN) collection and trade to address the perceived depletion in the population of EBN-producing swiftlets.

2. MAJOR PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED

2.1 Palawan Sustainable Development Policy Services

2.1.1 Mainstreaming of the Ridge-to-Reef ECAN System into the Local Land Use Development Plans

To ensure that all local development plans and projects are harmonized with the SEP Framework, the PCSDS continues the integration of the ridge-to-reef Environmentally Critical Areas Network (ECAN) strategy into the local Comprehensive Land Use Plans (CLUPs) of municipalities.



Ms. Cherry Jalover of ECAN Policy Research and Planning Division during the ECAN Zones Management Planning Workshop for Puerto Princesa.

For the first semester of 2016, three areas were selected for such integration, namely: Puerto Princesa City, Coron, and Busuanga. As part of ECAN integration into CLUPs, participatory ECAN Zones Management Planning (EZMP) workshops were conducted for each area on 15, 25, and 26 April 2016, respectively, followed by the formulation of ECAN Zones Management Plans

for each locality.

These were conducted together with the City/Municipal ECAN Boards and with the assistance of interns from the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) College of Human Ecology.

Furthermore, the EZMPs of the municipalities of Coron and Busuanga were approved by their respective municipal ECAN Boards, and were endorsed by the latter to the Sangguniang Bayan. The adoption of the Puerto Princesa EZMP was targeted for 2017.



Cover pages of the ECAN Zones Management Plans for Busuanga, Coron, and Puerto Princesa.



Participants during the ECAN Zones Management Planning Workshop for Sofronio Española on 11-12 October 2016.

Additionally, a participatory ECAN Zones Management Planning workshop was conducted at Sofronio Española on 11-12 October 2016, as part of the ecanization of the municipality's CLUP. The Roxas EZMP, which was developed by the Roxas ECAN Board together with PCSD Staff in 2015, was subsequently affirmed and endorsed by the ECAN Board to the Sangguniang Bayan of Roxas.

Furthermore, the PCSD Staff, through its ECAN Zones Management Division (EZMD) Coastal/Marine Component, developed the ECAN Coastal/Marine Management Plan for the municipalities of Taytay and Roxas. The EZMD also continues to facilitate the formulation and adoption of the Coastal ECAN Maps of the city/municipalities in Palawan. The following table shows the status of developed ECAN Coastal Maps of various municipalities.

Table 1. Coastal ECAN Maps developed/adopted by city/municipalities.

City/Municipality	Adoption Status of Coastal ECAN Map	
	ECAN Board	Sangguniang Bayan
Aborlan	✓	✓
Busuanga	✓	
Coron	✓	
Culion		
El Nido		
Linapacan	✓	✓
Puerto Princesa	✓	
Quezon		
Roxas		
San Vicente		
Taytay		

As shown in the table above, there are five city/municipalities with adopted ECAN Coastal Maps, while six municipalities already have draft ECAN Coastal Maps for adoption by their respective ECAN Boards and Sangguniang Bayan (SB).

2.1.2 Ecosystem Management Plans

For 2016, the Cave Management Plan (CMP) for the Panandanan Cave in the municipality of Quezon was prepared by the PCSD Staff in close coordination with the Municipality of Quezon, barangay officials of Barangay Tabon, and local stakeholders.

Prior to this, a participatory planning workshop was conducted on 17-18 February 2016 with representatives from the local government of Quezon, indigenous peoples (IPs), NGOs, barangay officials, National Museum, and other local stakeholders.

The cave management plan is designed to address the environmental and socio-economic threats to the Panandanan Cave, as well as the challenges posed by a lack of cave governance structure and livelihood mechanisms that can reduce the pressures to the cave.

Following the presentation of the plan before the Barangay Tabon Council on 23-24 October 2016, the Panandanan CMP was approved by the said council.

Moreover, the PCSDS prepared the management plan for the Wonderground Paradise Cave located in Barangay Tagabinet, Puerto Princesa City, following the conduct of a participatory planning workshop in the barangay on 16-20 May 2016.

One of the main objectives of the five-year management plan is to capacitate the Agriculture Commerce Tourism Services (ACTS) Marketing Inc., which shall be responsible in the sustainable use of the cave based on guidelines of the Community-Based Sustainable Tourism (CBST) Program of the city of Puerto Princesa and PCSD Administrative Order No. 8.



Participants during the Cave Management Planning Workshop for Panandanan Cave.



Ryan Fuentes (center), Head of the PCSDS ECAN Planning Division, discusses ECAN Resource Management Plan before the Roxas ECAN Board.



Participatory planning workshop for Wonderground Paradise Cave management.

2.1.3 Formulation of Agency Plans and Proposals

In addition to the above-mentioned plans, the PCSD Staff also prepared the Communication Plan for Palawan Biosphere Reserve, and the FY 2017 Agency Plans and Budget Proposal submitted to the DENR and the



(L-R) Communication Plan for Palawan BR, FY 2017 Agency Plans and Budget Proposal, Enhanced EMES Framework and the SD Goals for Palawan, and Organizational Assessment Study of PCSDS.

Department of Budget and Management (DBM).

The PCSDS Staff also commissioned one consultant for the preparation of the “Enhanced Environmental Monitoring and Evaluation System (EMES) Framework and the Sustainable Development Goals for Palawan”, which aims to mainstream the monitoring and evaluation system of the Strategic Environmental Plan (SEP) into a new pro-active system.

An organizational assessment study for PCSDS was also developed to identify and propose for the creation of additional plantilla positions to fill the gap in the PCSDS workforce.



PCSDS DMO North, along with the enumerators, prepare KAP survey forms.

This year, the PCSDS conducted the Knowledge-Attitude-Practice (KAP) Survey for the entire Palawan. The results of the survey will serve as baseline data on the level of knowledge and awareness of Palawenos with

regard to the Republic Act 7611 or SEP for Palawan Act. Relative to this, the PCSDS will formulate a policy research incorporating the KAP survey results.

Three project proposals were also developed during the period. The proposal on “Project Development on Documentation of Palawan Wild Fauna and Flora” was prepared in partnership with the Center for Strategic Policy and Governance (CSPG) of the Palawan State University (PSU), and was submitted to the Philippine Tropical Forest Conservation Foundation, Inc. (PTFCF).

A proposal was also developed and submitted by PCSDS to the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) of the United States of America.

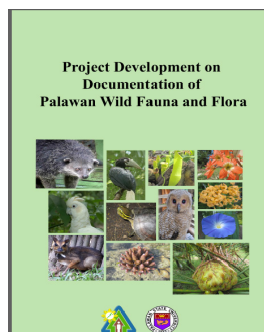
The “Interventions to Combat Environmental Crimes in Palawan Project” (INTERCEPT) aims to build capacities and introduce mechanisms to improve environmental law enforcement in Palawan, and to contribute toward the curbing of illegal and environmentally destructive activities that threaten the natural resource base of the province.

The PCSDS, in coordination with the Provincial Government of Palawan, also prepared the “Palawan Integrated Natural Resources Management Project” (PINRMP), a 10-year proposed initiative aimed on alleviating the Palawenos from poverty and increasing Palawan’s terrestrial and mangrove forests.



The initiative integrates the two proposals prepared earlier in 2016, namely: the (a) Palawan Forest Regeneration Project, and the (b) Palawan Province Coastal and Marine Environment Rehabilitation Program.

Palawan Integrated Natural Resources Management Project (PINRMP) proposal cover page.



Cover page of the Project Development on Documentation of Palawan Wild Fauna and Flora.

2.1.4 ECAN Knowledge Management and Research



The Palawan Knowledge Platform (www.pkp.pcsd.gov.ph) as maintained by the EKM-EMED.

Since its launching in 2014, the Palawan Knowledge Platform (PKP) now has 23 institutional partners, with five new partners added in 2016. The PKP (www.pkp.pcsd.gov.ph) is a user-friendly web-based information sharing

mechanism, which serves as repository of Palawan information.

It was established in partnership with various data-producing agencies and institutions operating in the province.

From January to November 2016, the PCSDS posted 60 articles in the platform, while a total of 1,189 page views and visits were counted (as monitored by Google Analytics).

Four quarterly PKP meetings were also convened by the



One of the quarterly meetings of the PKP members.

PCSDS, on March 11, May 5, July 6, and December 14.

The PCSDS also published the first issue of the journal *Our Palawan* for 2016, containing five scientific papers and three conference papers.

The publication is the initiative of the agency to contribute in the pursuit of science-based information sharing and dissemination, and includes research papers from academic institutions, NGAs, and other partner institutions of PCSD.

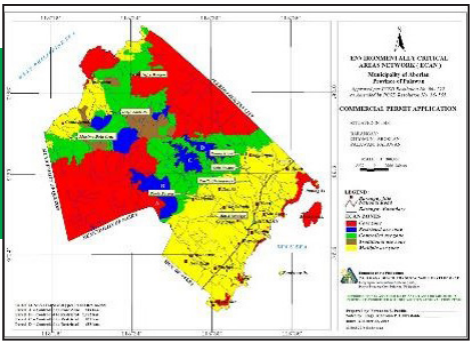


Cover page of *Our Palawan* Journal, Volume 2, Issue 1 (January-June 2016).

2.1.5 ECAN Environmental Monitoring and Evaluation System (EMES)

The PCSD through the ECAN Monitoring and Evaluation Division (EMED) continues to operate and maintain its Geographic Information System (GIS). This year, the GIS Unit, together with the GIS Specialists detailed in the District Management Divisions, processed a total of 252 ECAN Zoning Certifications, which is required for proponents before applying for SEP Clearance. Nine maps were also produced through thematic mapping and overlay analysis.

Overlay of project locations with the ECAN Map of the Municipality of Aborlan.



The PCSD Environmental Laboratory tested 141 water samples in different parameters. The EMED Staff conducted water quality monitoring of 11 river monitoring stations in Central & Northern Palawan (Roxas, Taytay, El Nido, and Puerto Princesa), 29 river stations in Southern Palawan (in Aborlan, Narra, Brookes Point, Espanola, and Quezon), and 16 monitoring sites in bays and coastal areas in El Nido, San Vicente, Taytay and Puerto Princesa City.



Water quality analysis conducted by PCSD technical staff at the Environmental Laboratory in Irawan, Puerto Princesa.

The PCSD Staff also participated in quarterly multi-partite monitoring team (MMT) Monitoring/Validation and Ambient Air and Water Monitoring for Rio Tuba Nickel Mining Corporation (RTNMC), Coral Bay Nickel Corporation (CBNC), Unichamp Mineral Philippines Inc. (UMPI), Citinickel Mines and Development Corporation (CMDC), and Berong Nickel Corporation (BNC).

EMES Enhancement and Sustainable Development Analytics

The EMES team conducted one intra-office training on Simultaneous Equations Model (SEM) at PCSDS Conference Room, Puerto Princesa City, on 2-12 August 2016.

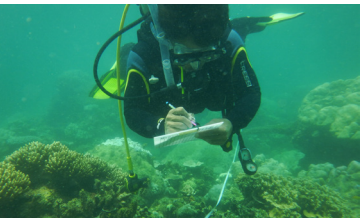
The team also travelled to Barangay Rio Tuba, Bataraza and conducted an orientation on Sustainable Monitoring Online Tool (SMOT) and a hands-on SMOT Workshop for RTNMC and CBNC on 19-20 October 2016.



PCSDS and personnel from Rio Tuba Nickel Mining Corporation during the SMOT orientation in Bataraza.

SMOT is a tool designed to measure sustainability of economic industries in the environmental, economic, and

Coastal Resource Assessment



A diver from the Office of the City Agriculturist noting the fish count as part of the Coastal Resource Monitoring at San Manuel Station, Puerto Princesa City.

For 2016, the Coastal/ Marine Component of the PCSD ECAN Zones Management Division (EZMD), with assistance from the staff of the Office of the City Agriculturist, revisited the monitoring stations in Puerto Princesa

that were assessed in 2004. The Coastal Resource Monitoring (CRM) data was updated for the said city, and the monitoring results were consequently presented to the Office of the City Agriculturist.

2.1.6 Inventory, Assessment and Classification of Palawan Caves

As the lead implementing agency of R.A. No. 9072 (National Caves and Cave Resources Management and Protection Act) in Palawan, the PCSDS through the Terrestrial ECAN Component of the ECAN Zones Management Division conducted identification, assessment, survey and classification, and mapping of five caves. These are the Panandanan Cave and Taraw Cave, both in Quezon, and Wonderground Paradise, Hundred, and Caabay Caves in Puerto Princesa City. The assessment also identified the cave ecotourism potential of these caves.



Column formations in Wonderground Paradise Cave, Puerto Princesa City.

2.2 Palawan Sustainable Development Regulation Services

2.2.1 Issuance of Permits and Clearances

For the period January to December 2016, 156 SEP Clearances were issued by the PCSD to projects and establishments across the province, out of the 198 project applications received and processed during the period. The main criteria for the approval of project applications were social acceptability and project compatibility with ECAN Zoning.

Meanwhile, following the PCSD's mandate as the CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) management authority in Palawan, a total of 5,837 wildlife-related permits and certifications were issued by the Permitting Unit and the District Management Divisions, in line with the implementation of the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act (R.A. No. 9147). The breakdown of permits issued is as follows:

Table 2. Wildlife-Related Permits Issued by PCSD, 2016.

TYPE OF WILDLIFE-RELATED PERMIT ISSUED	NUMBER
Local Transport Permits (LTP)	5,140
Wildlife Special Use Permit (WSUP)	232
WSUP Addendum	4
Wildlife Gratuitous Permit (WGP)	23
WGP Addendum	6
Wildlife Collectors Permit (WCP)	411
Wildlife Farm Permit (WFP)	2
Wildlife Import Certification (WIC)	10
Wildlife Export Certification (WEC)	4
CITES Permit	2
Certification equivalent of Local Transport Permit issued	3
TOTAL	5,837

In 2016, the PCSDS has conducted 43 wildlife rescue and release operations in 2016. Furthermore, 59 cave-related permits were issued as part of the agency's implementation of R.A. No. 9072 or the National Caves and Cave Resources Management and Protection Act.

2.2.2. Monitoring

To ensure compliance of the business establishments with the conditions spelled out in their SEP Clearance, the District Management Divisions (DMD) conducted monitoring of 330 projects and establishments all over Palawan, consisting of 208 projects with SEP Clearances and 122 without SEP Clearance.

In addition, the DMDs conducted monitoring of establishments engaging in RFF trading during the closed seasons, particularly from June 16 to August 31 and from October 16 to December 15.



(Top) Delta P Expansion Project monitored by the staff of DMD Central. (Right) Empty containers of RFF traders inspected by DMDs during the RFF closed season.

2.2.3 Enforcement

The PCSD Enforcement Team, in coordination with other law enforcement agencies further intensified its operations in 2016. It conducted 88 apprehensions for violations of various environmental laws.

Additionally, around 100 surveillance activities and verification of reports were conducted, for violation of Republic Act No. 9147 (Wildlife Act), R.A. No. 9175 (Chainsaw Act), R.A. No. 9072 (Caves Act) and R.A. 7611 (SEP for Palawan Act).

Moreover, the team conducted 150 special monitoring (investigations) pursuant to complaints for violation of terms and conditions contained in permits and clearances.

A total of 118 investigations for violation of PCSD-implemented laws were also conducted, concerning issues and complaints both as referred by DMDs and as filed by outside parties.

For 2016, the Wildlife Traffic and Monitoring Units (WTMUs) seized and confiscated 2,487 illegally possessed wildlife heads, by-products, and derivatives at five WTMU stations across the province.



Abandoned sacks of mangrove "tanbarks" loaded in three dump trucks and transported from Bataraza to Puerto Princesa for proper disposition. (Right) Confiscated lumber along with the vehicle used by the suspects for its transport.

More or less 178 heads of dead marine turtles loaded in an unmanned motorized banca were recovered by PCSDS and in Bataraza town last July 26, 2016.

Furthermore, 152,162 cargoes/baggage at these five stations were inspected and verified. These five WTMU stations are located in: (a) Puerto Princesa City Pier, (b) Puerto Princesa City Airport, (c) El Nido Airport and Pier, (d) Coron/Busuanga Pier, and (e) Brooke's Point Pier.

In 2016, 57 administrative cases were filed before the PCSD Adjudication Board (PAB), while eight criminal cases were filed before the regular court. The PCSD Legal Services attended 83 court hearings of PCSD-initiated criminal cases, and prepared 74 legal opinions, pleadings, and legal researches. Meanwhile, the PAB Secretariat prepared 82 PAB Resolutions, evaluated and docketed 61 administrative case documents, and issued 128 summonses.

2.2.4 ECAN Board Support and Facilitation

In line with the R.A. No. 7611, the PCSD Staff serves as secretariat to the ECAN Board of all municipalities in Palawan. This year, a total of 113 ECAN Board meetings were co-convened by the PCSDS, wherein 137 resolutions and certificates of endorsement were prepared.



Coron ECAN Board members discuss the details of a project securing the Board's endorsement.

ECAN Board meeting with DMD North as secretariat.



The ECAN Board meetings were actively attended by members coming from different sectors: NGAs, NGOs, LGUs, academe, people's organizations, IPs, the church, women sector, and business sector.

2.2.4 Advocacy, Communications and Extension

During the first quarter of 2016, the PCSD spearheaded the conduct of the planning workshop for the development of the 5-year Communication Plan (2015-2020) at the Palawan Sustainable Development Training Institute (PSDTI), Puerto Princesa City. The said activity was conducted to mainstream sustainable development advocacy in Palawan. It was attended by representatives from the LGUs, national government agencies (NGAs), NGOs, and local news media.



Summer Youth Eco-Camp for out-of-school youth (OSY).

PCSD Updates
Newsletters
published and
disseminated in
2016.



The ECAN Education and Extension Division (EEED) conducted information, education, and communication (IEC) campaigns in 31 communities in Palawan. Twelve monthly issues of the PCSD Updates newsletter were published and disseminated in print and online media during the year while 47 radio airings of the PCSD Radio Program were broadcasted. Moreover, the PCSD

3. FOREIGN-ASSISTED AND SPECIAL PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED

3.1. JFPR Grant 9160: Balabac Coastal Livelihood Project (2015-2018)

Financed by the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (JFPR) through the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Balabac Coastal Livelihood Project is a four-year initiative that aims to raise incomes in poor coastal communities in the municipality of Balabac.

For 2016, four livelihood types were identified and finalized based on the study and recommendation by the local technical working group (LTWG). Eight priority areas in Balabac were identified, with 275 poor coastal residents, women and IPs identified as beneficiaries. They also conducted training programs for identification of priority skills.

Other accomplishments during the period are the conduct of numeracy and literacy training of target beneficiaries; conduct of interfaith dialogues; development of Communication Plan; and establishment of Demo Farm and Test Market of products (handicraft, chicken meat, and eggs) to showcase the implementation of viable livelihood projects.

Aside from routine project management and administration, initial goat raising and poultry production livelihoods were launched at the Balabac National High School (BNHS). This is to engage the senior high school students and the teachers under the K to 12 Program in the poultry and goat raising, thereby maximizing the benefits from the project. The BNHS was chosen to be the demo site to sustain training on goat and poultry raising even after the project completion.

The project team established its network with the Provincial Livelihood Development Coordinator for a possible complementation between the livelihood prototypes and the Provincial Government livelihood



Livelihood activities (handicraft, goat raising, poultry, etc.) of beneficiaries supported and strengthened by the JFPR Project.

programs, specifically on seaweed farming, an identified viable alternative livelihood for Balabac. The JFPR Project was also extended from December 2017 to November 2018, as the original work plan of project implementation was affected by activities conducted by staff on the field, as well as by unfavorable weather conditions during the period.

3.2 Capturing Coral Reef and Related Ecosystem Services (CCRES)

The CCRES project's primary objective is to assist the community to capture the value of services provided by the coastal ecosystems.

Toward this end, the CCRES Project Team continued the processing and analysis of data collected in the focus group discussions (FGDs) conducted at the Municipality of El Nido.

The project team also participated in the CCRES Core Modelling Team Planning Workshop and in the Systems Thinking Dynamics Workshop.

The CCRES initiative is a joint venture of the University of Queensland (Australia), PCSD, Global Environmental Facility (GEF), World Bank, UP Marine Science Institute (UP-MSI), De La Salle University (DLSU), Palawan State University (PSU), and El Nido Foundation (ENF).



CCRES Core Modelling Team Planning Workshop.

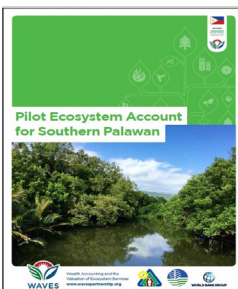
3.3 Philippine Wealth Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services (Phil-WAVES) Project

The Philippine Wealth Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services (Phil-WAVES) is a World Bank funded project that aims to promote sustainable development through the implementation of wealth accounting that focuses on the value of natural capital, as well as on the integration of Natural Capital Accounting (NCA) in development planning and policy analysis.



Participants in the presentation of Ecosystem Accounts for Southern Palawan to DENR Officials on 14 October 2016.

In 2016, the PCSD Phil-WAVES Project Team attended four WAVES missions at the World Bank Office, Manila, specifically: (a) WAVES Country Assessment and Implementation Review Mission on 4-8 April; (b) WAVES Technical Mission on 11-13 April; (c) WAVES Technical Mission on 22-26 August; and (d) WAVES Implementation Review Mission on 10-21 October.



Cover page of the technical report on Southern Palawan Ecosystem Account.

The PCSD Staff, led by the PCSD Phil-WAVES Project Team, participated in the launching and dissemination of the Pilot Ecosystem Account for Southern Palawan (technical report) on 24 November 2016 at Hotel Centro, Puerto Princesa City. Coaching Sessions for Policy Analysis were conducted on 29-30 June 2016 at the PCSDS Conference Room, Puerto Princesa City.

In addition, a training on the use of Quantum GIS software was organized by the project team for

the PCSD Staff and its DENR and PGP partners on 18-19 August 2016 at the PCSDS Conference Room.

3.4 Zero Carbon Resorts (ZCR) Project

In partnership with the Centre for Appropriate Technology (GrAT), the ZCR Project is focused on making the tourism industry energy- and resource-efficient in a sustainable and competitive way. The initiative operates using the 3R strategy: Reduce, Replace and Redesign.

For 2016, the project's focus was the continuous strengthening of network with stakeholders and partners simultaneous with the promotion of the project. This included the installation of ZCR visibility materials (including banners) in the municipalities and District Management Divisions (DMD) of PCSD. Project activities and updates were also posted in the Facebook page (zerocarbonpalawan), with an average of 100 people reached per post.

The ZCR Cottage, a showcase of Redesign strategy, could be found in PSDTI Complex, Irawan, Puerto Princesa City. It was visited by over 500 guests in 2016.

The project team, with assistance from the DMDs, conducted preliminary assessment of newly registered ZCR members, as well as monitoring of the implementation of ZCR members.

A total of 13 projects and establishments were recruited by the project team, increasing the number of ZCR members in Palawan. The team also assisted 37 small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) through the conduct of energy audit, with seven of them monitored during the period.



The ZCR Cottage in PSDTI Complex, Barangay Irawan, Puerto Princesa City.

aim of the activity was to strengthen the institutional capacity of participants, which includes policy makers, LGUs, academic institutions, government agencies, SMEs, and CSOs. Attended by around 90 participants, the policy forum also served as a venue to solicit perspectives and recommendations from the participants on how to enhance and strengthen the policy system on energy and low carbon projects in Palawan.

3.5 UNDP-GEF Strengthening Marine Protected Areas in the marine Key Biodiversity Areas (mkBA) – South Palawan (2015-2020)

The MKBA Project is a six-year joint initiative between the United Nations Development Programme Global Environmental Facility (UNDP-GEF), DENR, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), and National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI).

The objective of the project is to strengthen the conservation, protection and management of mkBAs. It also aims to empower the management capacity of local communities and indigenous peoples in the surrounding landscape through the integration of new conservation areas.

Considering the vital roles of the Provincial Government of Palawan and the PCSD in biodiversity conservation in Palawan, its representatives were commissioned to be members of the MKBA Working Group and Steering Committee.

This year, the project implementers conducted assessment, reactivation, and scoring of MPA Management Boards, as well as a series of paralegal and enforcement trainings.

There is also the continuous conduct of IEC campaigns and installation of MPA signage; connectivity studies and ichthyoplankton surveys; mapping and delineation; and financial and business planning.



Coral rehabilitation in Linapacan, Palawan.

3.6 Coral Rehabilitation Program

To improve the poor coral cover status of selected municipalities in northern Palawan, the PCSDS and the Malampaya Foundation Inc. (MFI) collaborated to implement the Coral Rehabilitation Program.

It includes the (a) establishment of eight Coral Nursery Units (CNU); (b) Upland Stabilization; (c) Water Quality Monitoring and Enforcement Initiatives; and (d) Capacity Building in selected sites in the municipalities of Linapacan, Taytay, and El Nido. The team also conducted test restocking in Coron.

The coral monitoring for the first quarter of 2016 shows that the growth and survival rates of corals from October 2015 to January 2016 are over 95%.



Participants and organizers during the Local Policy Forum and Technical Seminar on Sustainable Consumption and Production and Sustainable Tourism, September 2016.

On 6 September 2016, the PCSDS ZCR Team organized the "Local Policy Forum and Technical Seminar on Sustainable Consumption and Production and Sustainable Tourism" at A&A Plaza Hotel, Puerto Princesa City. The

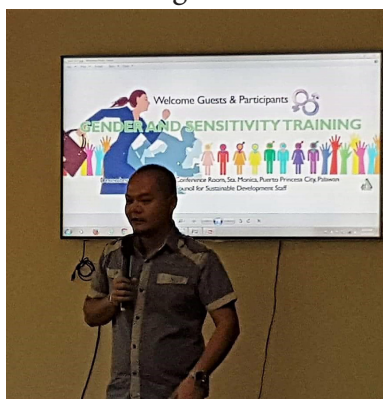
4. GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT (GAD) MAINSTREAMING

In line with its goal of mainstreaming GAD into the agency's planning and operations, the PCSDS conducted an in-house Gender Sensitivity Training (GST) on 5 December 2016 at PCSDS Conference Room, Puerto Princesa City.

Attended by division heads, members of GAD Focal Point System (GFPS), and GAD Technical Working Group (TWG), the one-day training was designed with three objectives.

These are (a) to help the various PCSDS divisions in integrating gender perspective in their regular programs and services, (b) to increase their level of awareness on existing GAD tools and policies, and (c) to capacitate them on GAD planning and budgeting.

Mr. Sherwin Maniquiz, a certified Gender and Development Trainer from the resource persons' pool of the Philippine Commission on Women, was invited to serve as resource speaker.



Mr. Maniquiz discussing the Gender Mainstreaming Strategy during the training.



The resource speaker and the participants during the Gender Sensitivity Training, December 2016.

He focused on gender mainstreaming concepts and strategies, gender analysis tools, and GAD planning and budgeting. A review of the PCSDS 2016 GAD Accomplishment Report was also conducted, as well as coaching on the proper formulation of 2018 GAD Plan and Budget.

5. GOOD GOVERNANCE INITIATIVES

In its effort to pursue transparency and accountability, including streamlining of systems and procedures, the PCSDS continues to implement the following good governance initiatives:

- Issuance and strict implementation of intra-office policies, specifically on the liquidation of cash advances, following the reglementary period as prescribed in DENR Memorandum dated 22 July 2016;
- Online filing system for leave;
- Fast processing of salaries and benefits;
- Implementation of agency/division frontline services;
- Posting of Citizen's Charter processes on conspicuous areas within the office premises;
- Desktop computers installed at the PCSD Lobby for client use;
- Partial document tracking system (database on incoming communications);
- Engaging on-the-job (OJT) trainees, interns, and

volunteers, including undergraduate students from Palawan universities and colleges;

- Participatory planning workshops, policy forums, and consultations that ensure that all sector groups (including indigenous peoples, women, farmers, fisherfolks, youth, academe, NGOs, and POs) are well represented and involved in the planning and policy making process;
- Regular online updating and posting of publication (PCSD newsletters, formulated plans and policies, etc.) at PCSD websites, providing stakeholders access to up-to-date and reliable information;
- Active Facebook page and regular posting of articles, news, and links;
- Timely posting of required documents and reports in the PCSD Transparency Seal;
- Regular meeting of the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) to ensure that the agency follows the procedures under R.A. No. 9184 or the Government Procurement Reform Act;
- Facilitation of meetings of the ECAN Board, a multi-sectoral policy making body operating in every municipality/city, that provides opportunities to the marginalized sectors to voice out and share their knowledge, ideas, beliefs, and opinions;
- Conduct of SEP Clearance compliance monitoring through multi-sectoral monitoring teams, which are composed of representatives/experts from various sectors and stakeholder groups; and
- Operation of Geographic Information System (GIS) at the District Management Divisions (DMDs) in the Calamian Group of Islands, Northern Palawan, and Southern Palawan, to expedite the release of ECAN Zoning Certification for project proponents applying for the SEP Clearance. (Note: The management has ensured that these GIS units in the DMDs are well equipped with information and communication technology (ICT) equipment for GIS operations and that the GIS operators are capacitated.)

6. SPECIAL EVENTS CONDUCTED

6.1 24th SEP Anniversary Celebration and MOU Signing for the Establishment of Center for Palawan Sustainable Development

With the theme, "Kabataan at Dalubhasa para sa Tuloy-tuloy na Abot-kayang Kaunlaran ng Palawan" the 24th anniversary of the Strategic Environmental Plan (SEP) for Palawan (R.A. No. 7611) was celebrated with the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between and among the University of the Philippines, Provincial Government of Palawan, City Government of Puerto Princesa, University of the Philippines Alumni Association (UPAA), UPAA-Palawan Chapter, and the PCSD. The celebration



MOU SIGNING: (Sitting L-R) UPAA Palawan Vice President for External Affairs Melody Ponce M. De Leon, UPAA President Ramon M. Maronilla, UP VP for Public Affairs Prospero De Vera, Palawan Vice Governor Dennis M. Socrates, City Vice Mayor Luis Marcaida III and PCSDS Executive Director Nelson P. Devanadera.

was held on the 19 June 2016 at the Provincial Capitol Building, Puerto Princesa City.

The MOU establishes a framework of mutual understanding and cooperation in strengthening the research role of academic institutions in support to planning, policy, and decision making in sustainable development processes in Palawan and ultimately in the establishment of the Center for Palawan Sustainable Development.

The Center is envisioned to be the place for testing interdisciplinary approaches to understanding and managing changes and interactions between social and ecological systems, including conflict prevention and management of biodiversity.

Its establishment will be a plus factor for Puerto Princesa City and Palawan as it can strengthen the role of Palawenos in sustaining the beauty, natural wealth, and significant contribution of the province in the national economy.

The Center will further highlight the importance of preserving the status of Palawan as a biosphere reserve under the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). As such, Palawan is an obvious demonstration site for learning sustainability science and a living laboratory for sustainable development.



Members of Kiddie Wildlife Savers' Club.

The SEP anniversary celebration was capped with the re-launching of the Kiddie Wildlife Savers Club (KWSC).

KWSC was envisioned to be an alternative learning venue for children to

deepen their appreciation and involvement in biodiversity conservation efforts in the province.

The KWSC was founded by PCSDS on 1 August 2010, and last June 19 it was reactivated and participated in by around 200 children of ages 6-12 years old.

During the re-launching, children were steered into the importance of wildlife and the environment through activities such as coloring books, parlor games, meeting wildlife mascots, and video (cartoon) presentations.



Ms. Levita Lagrada of the ECAN Regulation and Enforcement Division (ERED) discusses the PCSD Konek mobile hotline.

On the same anniversary day, the PCSDS reactivated the PCSD Konek, a community quick response system (QRS) previously launched in 2005, where community members and concerned citizens can report environmental violations and illegal activities in their localities via short message service (SMS).

Through the Smart Infocast of Smart Communications, Inc., community members can assist enforcement teams by filing reports and acting as "eyes and ears" on the ground without necessarily revealing

their identities and endangering themselves.

With the PCSD Konek, community support and participation are tapped for a more effective and efficient environmental law enforcement and wildlife protection.



(Left) PCSD staff Mr. Felomino Racuya, representing the Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park PAMB, and receiving the Special PAMBihirang Award. (Right) Ms. Rhoda Roque, representing the Quezon Municipal ECAN Board, and receiving the Best ECAN Board Award.

After this, the first ever Best ECAN Board Award was given to the ECAN Board of the Municipality of Quezon, after thorough assessment by the judges based on five criteria: (1) sufficient legal instruments; (2) complete composition of the board; (3) established operational procedures and guidelines; (4) financing in place; and (5) clearly delineated powers and functions.

Meanwhile, a Special PAMBihirang Award was received by the Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park Protected Area Management Board (TPAMB). The PCSDS will be creating a technical committee to draft the criteria on the Protected Area categories in order to select the PAMBihirang Awardee on the 25th SEP Anniversary Celebration in 2017.

6.2 3rd Palawan Research Symposium

The 3rd Palawan Research Symposium was once again conducted in collaboration with the three state universities in the province, namely: Palawan State University (PSU), Western Philippines University (WPU), and Holy Trinity University (HTU). It was held at the Citystate Asturias Hotel, Puerto Princesa City on 15 September 2016.

Its success was evident from the participation of around 170 professional and student researchers in the symposium, where current scientific and policy researches on critical issues in Palawan were shared and discussed.

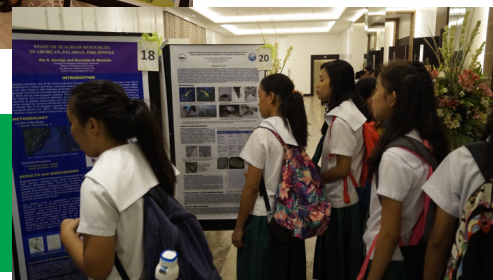


National Scientist Dr. Angel C. Alcala on his keynote speech during the 3rd Research Symposium.

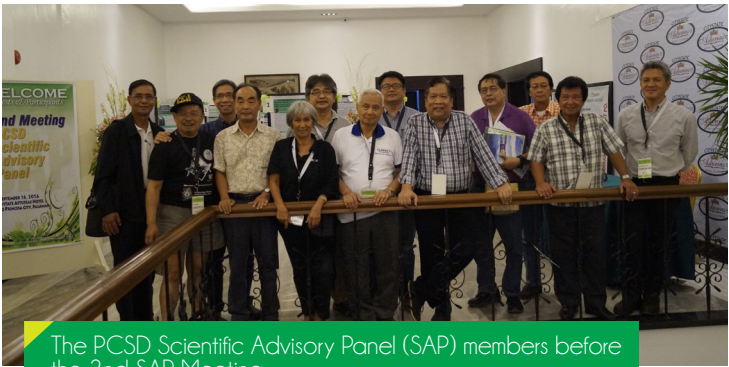


(From L-R) Dr. Alcala, together with PCSDS Executive Director Nelson P. Devanadera and HTU President Sister Mercedes R. Lalisan, led the opening of the scientific poster exhibit.

Students skimming through the posters of research studies displayed at the venue.



A total of 36 oral paper presentations were presented, while 44 posters of scientific researches and studies were displayed at the venue.



The PCSD Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) members before the 2nd SAP Meeting.

6.3 2nd PCSD Scientific Advisory Meeting

The PCSDS convened the second meeting of the Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) led by Dr. Angel C. Alcala, National Scientist, on 16 September 2016 at the Citystate Asturias Hotel, Puerto Princesa City.

The 15 SAP Members attended the meeting to discuss and share sound, science-based statements on emerging environmental and sustainable development issues faced by Palawan.

The issues discussed were live reef fish regulatory measure, oil palm monoculture plantation and coal as energy source, as well as socio-cultural and economic issues such as tribal ancestral zone management and conservation and endowment funds for sustainability of mining.

From among the members, two sub-panels – (a) Ecological and Biophysical Sub-Panel and (b) Socio-Cultural and Economic Sub-Panel – were organized to lead the discussion on the aforementioned issues and ultimately come up with recommendations for PCSD's action.

6.4 Tribal Ancestral Zones Participatory Consultation-Dialogue



Participants during the consultation-dialogue.

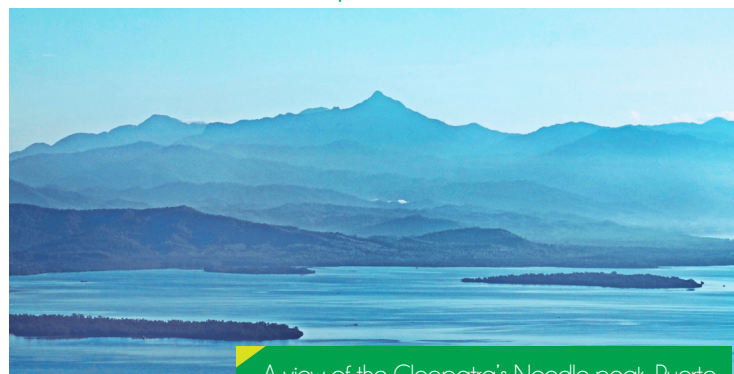


The PCSDS Consultant on Tribal Ancestral Zones (TAZ), Ms. Dionesia Banua, during the Consultation-Dialogue on ECAN TAZ.

The PCSDS through the EZMD Tribal Ancestral Zones (TAZ) Component convened the Consultation-Dialogue in Fostering Partnership on ECAN TAZ at PSDTI, Barangay Irawan, Puerto Princesa City last 23 September 2016.

During the dialogue, issues and concerns were raised by the participants, which consist mainly of representatives of the IPs, CSOs, LGUs, and NGAs.

6.5 Conservation, Protection, and Restoration of Cleopatra's Needle



A view of the Cleopatra's Needle peak, Puerto Princesa City. (PHOTO: John Christian S. Yayan)

A partnership between the PCSD and Centre for Sustainability, an NGO working actively in Palawan, was established for the conservation, protection, and rehabilitation of Cleopatra's Needle in Barangay Concepcion, Puerto Princesa City.



Mt. Cleopatra's Needle is home to Palawan's slowly disappearing Batak tribe whose population is only about 200. (PHOTO: Global Wildlife Conservation)

An Indigenous Community Conserved Area (ICCA) Plan was formulated with the Batak tribe in Sitio Kalakwasan, Puerto Princesa City, while a Local Conservation Area (LCA) resolution was developed with consultation from the barangay officials and leaders of the Tagbanua tribe in Barangay Binduyan, Puerto Princesa City.

In line with this, the PCSD declared Cleopatra's Needle a critical habitat, through a resolution during its regular meeting on 18 November 2016.

6.6 World Wildlife Day Celebration

6.6.1 1st Palawan Wildlife Kiddie Summit

In celebration of the World Wildlife Day, the PCSDS organized the very first Palawan Wildlife Kiddie Summit on 3 March 2016 at PSDTI in Barangay Irawan, Puerto Princesa City.



Students from Tagbueros Elementary School together with members of Peacock Jaycees, and PCSD staff

This is in partnership with the JCI Puerto Princesa Peacock, Inc. With the theme: “*May Forever ang Pawikan kung Ating Pangangalagaan*”, the one-day activity was attended by students from Tagburos Elementary School.

The summit aims to familiarize the youth about Palawan's efforts in marine turtle conservation, as well as to maximize the potentials of Palaweno youth toward sustainable development of the province.

6.6.2 Partnership for Marine Turtle Conservation Established



PCSDS Executive Director Nelson P. Devanadera, C3MC representative Danilo Villawala, and Arena Island owner and former PCSDS Executive Director Roland F. Rodriguez.

Also during the World Wildlife Day, a memorandum of agreement (MOA) was signed between the Arena Island Marine Turtle Sanctuary Resort (Narra Municipality), Candis 3 Marketing Cooperative (C3MC) (Puerto Princesa City), and PCSDS, for the co-management of marine turtle conservation.

6.7 Conference on Victoria-Anepahan Mountain Ranges (VAMR)



Environmental advocates from various government agencies and NGOs, along with the participants of the conference on Victoria-Anepahan Mountain Range held last April 22 at the Western Philippines University.

The PCSDS, in partnership with the Victoria-Anepahan Mountain Range (VAMR) core team, spearheaded a conference on VAMR at the Western Philippines University, Puerto Princesa City on 22 April 2016.

The core team was created for the conservation, protection, and restoration (CPR) of the said mountain range. It is composed of representatives from Environmental Legal Assistance Center (ELAC), Institute for the Development of Educational and Ecological Alternatives, Inc. (IDEAS), Western Philippines University (WPU), Non-Timber Forest Product Exchange Programme (NTFP-EP), Palawan NGO Network, Inc. (PNNI), and PCSDS.

The participants in the stakeholders' consultation workshop came from the local government offices of Aborlan, Narra, Quezon, and Puerto Princesa City.

The topics discussed include the VAMR ecological and socio-economic value and the possible effective management framework for biodiversity conservation in the mountain range.

Initially, IEC materials and updated VAMR situationer were developed to promote the significance of VAMR as one of the 30 Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) in Palawan.

A consequence of PCSDS coordination efforts in VAMR was the awarding by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) of project grants to

four civil society organizations (CSOs) working in the area, namely NTFP-EP, IDEAS, Katala Foundation, Inc. (KFI) and Palawan Katutubo Mission (PKM), amounting to Php 2 million for each CSO.

6.8 Wildlife Enforcement Officers (WEO) Deputation Training

A series of training for WEOs was conducted by the PCSD Staff in four areas: Puerto Princesa (10-14 October), San Vicente (17-21 October), Brooke's Point (7-11 November), and Rizal (14-18 November).

Trainees were oriented on the R.A. 7611 or the SEP for Palawan Act, as well as on other environmental laws implemented in the province.

Conducted in coordination with the LGUs, City Environment and Natural Resources Office (City ENRO) and ELAC, the training included lectures on conducting arrests, searches, and seizures; preparation and processing of case documents; hands-on activity on the proper handling and transporting of wildlife; and fieldwork on conducting enforcement operation.

As part of the deputation process, the participants underwent an extensive examination to assess their knowledge and skills in wildlife enforcement. Staff from the Palawan Wildlife Rescue and Conservation Center (PWRCC) and Katala Foundation, Inc. (KFI) served as resource speakers in the deputation trainings.



The PWRCC staff demonstrates the proper handling of crocodiles during the deputation training on 10-14 October 2016 at New City Hall, Puerto Princesa City.

6.9 International Study Tour for NUGELP and FOREFRONT



The students of Nagoya University, together with their professor, Mr. Hiroki Tanawa, assistant professor, and the PCSD Staff

As part of their 2016 international tour, students under the Nagoya University Global Environmental Leaders Program (NUGELP) of Nagoya University, Japan, visited the PCSDS Main Office and the PSDTI Complex at Barangay Irawan, Puerto Princesa City on 24 October 2016.

Welcomed by the PCSDS, the group consisting of 33 students of different nationalities (Vietnamese, Filipino, Japanese, Cambodian, Tanzanian, Ethiopian, Burmese, Indonesian, and Chinese) grabbed the opportunity to visit the Zero Carbon Resorts Project cottage in the PSDTI Complex.

The study tour's purpose is for the NUGELP students to learn about the collaborative efforts between government and private companies in the quest for sustainable development, both in national and provincial levels.

6.10 Attendance to International Conferences and Training

6.10.1 4th World Congress of Biosphere Reserves



Executive Director Nelson P. Devanadera during the 4th World Congress of Biosphere Reserves in Lima, Peru, March 2016.

in Lima, Peru
Executive Director
(ED) Nelson P. Devanadera represented the Palawan Biosphere Reserve (BR) in the 4th World Congress of Biosphere Reserves in Lima, Peru, on 14-18 March 2016. The ED made a presentation during the parallel workshop on tourism, highlighting the Palawan BR as an example of sustainable tourism in Asia. One of the highlights of the Congress is the assessment by participants of lessons learned and new challenges faced by the World Network of Biosphere Reserves

(WNBR). In the same event, The Lima Action Plan for Biosphere Reserves for 2016-2025 was developed and launched.

6.10.2 Wildlife Trafficking Investigation Course

From 29 February to 11 March 2016, the PCSDS Deputy Director, Atty. Adelina B. Villena, participated in the Wildlife Trafficking Investigation Course at the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) in Bangkok, Thailand. Sponsored by the United States (US) Department of State, the five-day activity focused on providing an overview of various wildlife trafficking investigative topics, with experts



Atty. Adelina B. Villena (fifth from left), PCSDS Deputy Director, was among the five participants who participated in ILEA courses. They were inducted as alumni of the Academy and awarded with silver pin during the closing ceremony on 11 March 2016. (PHOTO: ILEA-Bangkok)

6.10.3 Asia Regional Joint Preparatory Meeting

Ms. Levita Lagrada of ECAN Regulation and Enforcement Division attended the Asia Regional Joint Preparatory Meeting at the United Nations Convention Center in Bangkok, Thailand, on 1-5 August 2016. A member of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources - Species Survival Commission - Pangolin Specialist Group, Ms. Lagrada presented the proposal for the uplisting of Philippine pangolin (*Manis culionensis*) from Appendix II to Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

6.10.4 17th CITES Conference of Parties (COP17)

During the 17th CITES Conference of Parties (COP17) held from 24 September to 5 October 2016 in Johannesburg, South Africa, the PCSDS proposed the up-listing of Philippine pangolin (*Manis culionensis*) from Appendix II to Appendix I of CITES.

The proposal was eventually adopted during the deliberation, effectively banning the international trade of Philippine pangolin and seven more Pangolin species, and granting these species the highest CITES protection possible.

Philippine pangolin (*Manis culionensis*) was up-listed from Appendix II to Appendix I of CITES, along with seven other pangolin species.



6.10.454th UNESCO Training Course on Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves

As a member of the World Network of Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves (WNICBR), the Palawan BR through the PCSDS, participated in the 4th UNESCO Training Course on Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves.

The four-day training was held on 28 September to 1 October 2016 in Jeju Island, South Korea.

It aims to provide BR managers with an opportunity to share experiences and build capacities for climate change adaption and sustainable development. Participants to the training came from 10 biosphere reserves all over the world.



Participants during the 4th UNESCO Training Course for Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves Managers, conducted on 28 September to 1 October 2016 in Jeju Island, South Korea. (PHOTO: www.unesco.org)

7. OTHER SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRONOUNCEMENTS, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DIRECTIVES OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION

7.1 Pre-Environmental Summit – Cluster Consultation Workshops

From 14 to 21 October 2016, four consultation workshops were organized by the PCSDS, in partnership with the Provincial Government of Palawan (PGP), DENR, and CSOs. The consultation workshop was divided into four geographic clusters: Northern Palawan, Southern Palawan, Central Palawan, and Islands Clusters. The four-part activity aims to solicit issues and recommendations from the different sectors in Palawan, which will be consolidated for presentation in the Environmental Summit.

On 14-17 October 2016, the PCSDS, in partnership with DENR and PGP, conducted the Islands Cluster Consultation Workshop in the municipalities of Agutaya, Magsaysay, and Cuyo.

During the activity, the Palawan Integrated Natural Resources Management Project (PINRMP) proposal prepared by PCSDS and PGP was presented.

PINRMP is a 10-year initiative aimed on reducing the number of poor Palawenos and increasing Palawan's terrestrial and mangrove forests. Commitment declaration was signed by attendees, in line with their



Ms. Merlinda Hilario of PCSDS on her presentation of the PINRMP Proposal.

regarding the proposed plan. Coming from the municipalities of Quezon, Narra, Brooke's Point, Española, Rizal, Bataraza, and Balabac, the participants were divided into four groups: NGAs, LGUs, NGOs, IPs and Private Sector.

The Central Palawan Cluster consultation workshop was jointly conducted by PGP, DENR, ELAC, and PCSDS. Attended by over 70 participants from LGUs, NGAs, academic institutions, NGOs, people's organizations, and IP groups, the one-day event was held at A&A Plaza Hotel, Puerto Princesa City, on 21 October 2016. During the workshop, they were also grouped into four sectors: (a) LGUs, (b) NGOs, (c) IPs, and (d) NGAs and academe.



Atty. Grizelda Mayo-Anda delivers her inspirational message at the consultation workshop's opening program.



LGU Group during the Northern Palawan Cluster Consultation Workshop, facilitated by Mr. Alejandro Marcaida of PCSDS.

suggestions to resolve the issues and problems that emerged during the workshop.

Meanwhile, the Northern Palawan Cluster Consultation Workshop was jointly conducted by the PCSDS, Palawan Center for Appropriate Rural Technology

(PCART), DENR, and PGP. It was held at Chateau Ysidore, Barangay 3, Roxas, Palawan, and was attended by over 120 people. The participants were divided into five groups for the workshops, namely: (a) LGU and NGA Group, (b) CSO Group 1, (c) CSO Group 2, and (d) IP Group.

Aside from the solicitation of issues and recommendations from the stakeholders, the consultation featured the presentation of the PINRMP proposal, and the updates on the Star Trek Project of PCART.

Simultaneous with the Northern Palawan Cluster activity, the PCSDS, PGP, and IDEAS spearheaded the Consultation Workshop for Southern Palawan Cluster at Municipal Compound, Brooke's Point, Palawan.

The PINRMP Proposal was also presented, and participants expressed their comments and feedback



Mr. Laurence Padilla of PCART discusses the Star Trek Project updates.

Mr. Benjamin Adriano, Jr. of PCSDS facilitates the NCO/CSO Group during the Central Palawan Cluster workshop.



Presented in the consultation was the PINRMP Proposal, with the attendees providing comments and suggestions to enhance the proposal. The Satre Technology Resource Development Association, Inc. presented their Rio Tuba Mangrove Rehabilitation Program.

7.2 Palawan Environmental Summit

Following the conduct of the Pre-Summit Consultations, the PCSDS, in partnership with PGP, DENR and CSOs, conducted the 1st Palawan Environmental Summit cum Planning Workshop on 17-18 November 2016 at Provincial Capitol, Puerto Princesa City.

Usec. Marlo Mendoza, Undersecretary for Policy and Planning of DENR, attended the summit as resource speaker, and presented the DENR Strategic Directions under the Duterte Administration.

Additionally, officials and representatives from different agencies and organizations presented their respective initiatives.

These include the PGP, Department of Tourism (DOT), DENR Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau (ERDB), Department of Agriculture - Palawan Agricultural Experiment Station (DA-PAES), Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Mother Earth Foundation, Zero Waste Management Foundation, and the Protect Wildlife Project (PWP) Team of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Also presented in the summit were the Pre-Summit workshop outputs and results for the four clusters, the



Usec. Marlo Mendoza of the DENR delivers his keynote speech during the Palawan Environmental Summit cum Planning Workshop, November 2016.



(Left) Hon. Jean Feliciano, Municipal Mayor of Brooke's Point, delivers her opening remarks during the Southern Palawan Cluster Consultation Workshop. (Right) The NGO Group discusses the issues and recommendations during the workshop.

PINRMP Proposal, the Palawan FORESTHOOD Proposal prepared by PNNI, and the LGU Plans. In line with this, the participants shared their perspectives, comments, and recommendations on the proposals and plans presented.

As with the workshops conducted during the Pre-summit consultations, the participants were divided into three workshop groups: Northern, Southern, and Central Palawan (including Islands) Clusters.

Each group prioritized issues, recommendations, and programs based on the Pre-summit workshop outputs and results, and prepared their own Work and Financial Plan (WFP) in line with the DENR's priority programs.

The priority programs and WFPs were later presented to and critiqued by the participants during the plenary session.



Hon. Jose Ch. Alvarez, Palawan Governor, gives the opening message during the Environmental Summit, November 2016.



The Environmental Summit participants, with the resource speakers sitting (L-R): Dr. Metodio Palaypay (Chair, Zero Waste Management Foundation), Ms. Sonia Mendoza (Chair, Mother Earth Foundation), Dir. Carlito M. Tuballa (Regional Director, DENR-MIMAROPA), Usec. Marlo Mendoza (Undersecretary, DENR), Hon. Victorino Dennis Socrates (Vice Governor, PGP), Dir. Nelson Devanadera (Executive Director, PCSDS), and Dr. Ernesto Guiang (Chief of Party, PWP).

III. CHALLENGES FOR CY 2017

In the course of PCSDS implementation of the environmental laws and policies mandated to it, the following are the ongoing challenges being faced by the agency in its operations:

1. LARGE GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE OF PALAWAN

Palawan covers 15,000 square kilometers of land, making it the largest province in the Philippines in terms of total land area. It is surrounded by municipal waters of some 4.5 million ha. It has one highly urbanized city and 23 municipalities. The total coastline is around 2,000 km distributed in 1,700 islands, which is about a fourth of the country's 7,100 islands. The main island of Palawan measures 12,000 sq. km.

2. UNDERSTAFFED IN FAR-FLUNG MUNICIPALITIES

The District Management Divisions (DMDs), the agency's field operating units distributed strategically across the province, serve not only as the liaison offices of PCSDS for all municipalities, but also as the secretariat of the ECAN Boards.

Thus, in the case of far-flung island municipalities such as Cuyo, Magsaysay, Agutaya, Cagayancillo, and Kalayaan, their remote geographic locations and the lack of available DMD staff detailed in the island municipalities have made it hard for the DMDs to facilitate meetings and activities of the ECAN Boards.

3. THE URGENT NEED TO MAINTAIN THE NATURAL CAPITAL AND NATURAL RESOURCE BASE OF PALAWAN, TO PROTECT AND CONSERVE ITS BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY, AND TO ADDRESS THREATS TO ITS NATURAL ECOSYSTEMS IN "HOTSPOTS AREAS"

Though the province's land area is only 5% of the land area of the Philippines, Palawan harbors the country's highest provincial terrestrial and mangrove forest cover. Its 692,000 hectares of terrestrial forests comprises 10% of the country's terrestrial forest cover, and its 63,000 hectares of mangrove forests constitutes 20% of the total national mangrove cover. It also holds the majority of the remaining stands of old growth forests in the Philippines, and has 11 out of the 12 forest formations in the country (including lowland evergreen rain forest, lower and upper montane rain forests, subalpine forest, forest over limestone, forest over ultramafic rocks, mangrove and beach forests, and freshwater swamp forest).

As Palawan islands are well within the Coral Triangle, which is considered the center of the world's marine biodiversity, the province's marine waters contain a diverse collection of reef-building coral species and coral reef fish species.

Additionally, Palawan exhibits a high degree of species endemism. Of the 67 threatened species found only in the Philippines, 42 are endemic to Palawan. Some of the notable endemic species in the province are the Palawan peacock-pheasant (*Polyplectron emphanum*), Balabac mouse deer (*Tragulus nigricans*), Palawan

stink badger (*Mydaus marchei*), Philippine pangolin (*Manis culionensis*), and Palawan porcupine (*Hystrix pumila*). In the last 15 years, new plant and animal species (black pitcher plant, gecko, among others) in Palawan were described for the first time, emphasizing the biogeographic distinctiveness and level of floral and vertebrate endemism of Palawan Island. Due to having a high concentration of endemic and threatened species of plants and animals, 30 marine and terrestrial Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) were identified in the Palawan out of the 228 in the country.

The number of confiscated Palawan wildlife has increased in the last four years compared to the previous years, with 33,953 wildlife (heads, pieces, by-products and derivatives) confiscated or recovered from 2013 to 2016. This is 13 times greater than the confiscated/recovered 2,469 wildlife from 2010 to 2012. Among the identified threats to wildlife population and their habitats were: (i) the lack of understanding and appreciation for the value of biodiversity; (ii) insufficient enforcement of environmental laws; (iii) inappropriate and conflicting government policies and weak institutional mechanisms, reflecting a very low budgetary priority for nature and natural resource conservation; (iv) lack of conservation knowledge and expertise among key stakeholders; and (v) lack of sustainable livelihood for local stakeholders.

Illegal wildlife trade and timber poaching continue to threaten the natural environment of the province. Rapid development of Palawan, especially in city and urban centers, requires lumber materials and aggregates for construction. "Hotspots areas" are sites with the presence of threatened species and with high incidence of wildlife poaching.

4. THE NEED TO SUSTAIN NATURAL RESOURCE-BASED INDUSTRIES OF HIGH ECONOMIC VALUE

Considering the significant contribution of Palawan to national development, particularly in the industries of oil and gas, mining, fisheries, and tourism, the sustainability of these industries will require the policy and regulation services of the PCSD. The natural resource-based industries of Palawan are founded on the integrity of Palawan's environment and its rich biological diversity. Its natural ecosystems are the basis for the creation of economic wealth of the province through the delivery of four ecosystem services: regulating, provisioning, supporting, and cultural services. Based on various studies, Palawan's forests in 2010 can be conservatively valued at Php 161 billion, considering only the first three of these ecosystem services. Natural resource-based industries include the live reef fish food industry (LRFF), the edible birds' nest (EBN) industry, the shellfish industry, and the South Sea pearls, among others.

The recreation services provided by Palawan islands are also quite significant. As an ecological tourism destination, Palawan was cited as "the World's Best Island" in 2013 and 2016 by the magazine *Travel + Leisure*. Similarly, the province was cited as "Top Island in the World" in 2014 and "Best Island in the World" in 2015 by *Condé Nast Traveler Magazine*.

5. THE NEED TO BE STRATEGIC IN THE MANAGEMENT OF HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE AREAS (HCVAS)

Many HCVAs in Palawan are priority or special management areas, usually with an official or legal declaration, management body, management plan, and governing policy. Palawan's uniqueness and outstanding ecological and cultural character have given rise to HCVAs such as ECAN core zones in 24 localities, KBAs (30), protected areas initiated under the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) (10), Certificate of Ancestral Domain Titles (32), World Heritage Sites and wetlands of international importance under the Ramsar Convention (2), and critical habitats, wetlands, and watersheds. The maintenance of the condition of these HCVAs is important to sustain the goods and services they provide to the immediate communities.

6. ADVERSE CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS, NATURAL DISASTER RISKS, AND EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS

The island character of Palawan allowed for many species to evolve in it, making it stable and productive. At the same time, the island configuration and geology of Palawan (specifically its long and narrow geography, steep topography, highly erodible and impermeable soils, and small watershed and rivers) make it a vulnerable island ecosystem. These make it susceptible to both natural disasters and unsound manmade activities.

The critical realities for Palawan right now are the impacts of climate change and the increase in population together with urbanization and land use change that may impact the biodiversity. With respect to climate change, Palawan as an archipelagic province is particularly vulnerable to sea level rise, coastal beach erosion, and coral bleaching due to rise in sea surface temperature, and ocean acidification.

The population of Palawan increased from 755,412 in 2000 to 994,340 in 2010, with a growth rate of 2.79%. At this rate, the current population is estimated at 1.206 million. Rapid increase in population growth rate was experienced in the province after natural resources from other areas in the country started to diminish in quantity, resulting to high incidence of in-migration. This led to increase in pressures to Palawan forests, which is now considered as one of the key environmental problems being faced by the province, alongside forest land conversion and wildlife poaching. Since natural resources in the province are dwindling in terms of quantity and quality, people in the community are starting to resort to excessive and exploitative use of natural resources as source of income.

7. HIGH POVERTY INCIDENCE

Palawan posted the highest number of identified poor households (83,520 households) in MIMAROPA Region, according to the database of Department of Social Welfare and Development. This high poverty incidence in Palawan affects the health condition, income, and livelihood of communities, and contributes to pressures to the environment.

**IV. PHYSICAL & FINANCIAL
PERFORMANCE
FOR CY 2016**

PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR CY 2016

For January to December 2016

Programs/ Activities/ Projects (P/A/Ps)	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	PHYSICAL PERFORMANCE			FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE				REMARKS (to include justification on low performance)
		Target	Accomp	% Accomp	Allotment	Obligation	Disbursement	% Budget Utilization Rate (BUR)	
1	2	3	4	5 = 4/3*100	6	7	8	Obligations BUR 9 = (7/6)*100	Disbursement BUR 10 = (8/7)*100
I. General Administration and Support Service					36884	36605	36604	99%	100%
	1. Number of communities reached with IEC	12	28	233%					One of the major facilitating factors in accomplishing the targets was the presence of partner organizations (NGOs, NGAs, and people's organizations) who co-financed and assisted in many IEC campaigns. Another factor is the participation of willing and open- minded communities.
	2. Percentage of administrative support provided	100%	100%	100%					The provision of sufficient and immediate administrative support was facilitated by the cut-off system in the accounting process, as well as timely reminders from the Admin and Finance Division.
II. MFO 1: Palawan Sustainable Development Policy Service					21592	21586	21586	100%	100%
	1. Number of plans and policies developed and issued or updated and disseminated	21	21	100%					Factors that facilitated the completion of the targets within the prescribed deadline include the substantive efforts of divisions/staff concerned, and the complementation from other divisions/units.

Programs/ Activities/ Projects (P/A/Ps)	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	PHYSICAL PERFORMANCE			FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE				REMARKS (to include justification on low performance)
		Target	Accomp	% Accomp	Allotment	Obligation	Disbursement	% Budget Utilization Rate (BUR)	
		3	4	5 = 4/3*100	6	7	8	Obligations BUR 9 = (7/6)*100 Disbursement BUR 10 = (8/7)*100	
1	2	3	4	5 = 4/3*100	6	7	8	9 = (7/6)*100 10 = (8/7)*100	18
	2. Percentage of stakeholders that rate the PCSD policies as good or better	65%							To be based on results of CSS Study, which will be conducted by an entity commissioned by DENR.
	3. Average percentage of plans and policies reviewed over the last 2 years	2	3	150%					Refers to the number of ECAN Plans.
III. MFO 2: Palawan Sustainable Development Regulation Services									
MFO 2-1: Operation of Strategic Environmental Plan (SEP) Clearance System					17676	17654	17654	100%	
	Issuance of Clearances								This refers to number of SEP Clearances issued.
	1. Number of permits and clearances issued	100	156	156%					Continuous growth in Palawan's tourism industry may have encouraged more investments in the province, contributing to the increase in the number of investors and developers applying for SEP Clearance.

Programs/ Activities/ Projects (P/A/Ps)	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	PHYSICAL PERFORMANCE			FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE				REMARKS (to include justification on low performance)	
		Target	Accomp	% Accompl	Allotment	Obligation	Disbursement	% Budget Utilization Rate (BUR)		
1	2	3	4	5 = 4/3*100	6	7	8	Obligations BUR 9 = (7/6)*100	Disbursement BUR 10 = (8/7)*100	18
	2. Percentage of permit/clearance holders incurring 1 or more violation in the last 3 years	10%	1%	190%						Target is maximum. No. of SEP Clearance Holders with 1 or more violations (2014-2016): 27 Total SEP Clearance Holders (2001-2016): 2,708 1.00% = (27/2,708)*100% % Accompl = [(Target-Accomp)/Target]*100% +100% % Accompl = [(10-1)/10]*100%+100% % Accompl = 190%
	3. Percentage of permit and/or clearance applications acted upon within 7 days from date of receipt	95%	100%	105%						
	Monitoring									
	1. Number of establishments and facilities monitored and/or inspected with reports issued	100	330	330%						Accomplishment refers to the number of monitoring of projects and establishments with and without SEP Clearances. The large variance between target and accomplishment can be attributed to the continuous extensive monitoring of District Management Divisions strategically distributed across Palawan. Strong collaborative efforts with other monitoring bodies can also be considered as a facilitating factor.

Programs/ Activities/ Projects (P/A/Ps)	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	PHYSICAL PERFORMANCE			FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE				REMARKS (to include justification on low performance)
		Target	Accomp	% Accomp	Allotment	Obligation	Disbursement	% Budget Utilization Rate (BUR)	
1	2	3	4	5 = 4/3*100	6	7	8	Obligations BUR 9 = (7/6)*100 Disbursement BUR 10 = (8/7)*100	18
	2. Percentage of submitted reports that resulted in the penalties imposed issuance of notice of violations and penalties imposed	10%	0.3%	197%					Target is maximum. 1 out of 330 monitored projects/establishments was issued with PCSD Adjudication Board (PAB) Summons. 0.30% = (1/330)*100% % Accomp = [(Target-Accomp)/Target]*100% +100% % Accomp = [(10-0.30)/10]*100%+100% % Accomp = 197%
	3. Percentage of establishments and facilities that have been inspected more than twice in 2 years	90%	94%	104%					
MFO 2-2: Implementation of Rules and Regulations					8247	8247	8247	100%	
	Enforcement 1. Number of potential violations and complaints acted upon and reports issued	10	65	650%					Accomplishment refers to the number of administrative and criminal cases filed. The large number of filed cases is due to the strong partnership with Bantay Palawan inter-agency task force, as well as with other law enforcement authorities.

Programs/ Activities/ Projects (P/A/Ps)	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	PHYSICAL PERFORMANCE			FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE				REMARKS (to include justification on low performance)
		Target	Accomp	% Accomp	Allotment	Obligation	Disbursement	% Budget Utilization Rate (BUR)	
1	2	3	4	5 = 4/3*100	6	7	8	Obligations BUR $9 = (7/6)*100$ Disbursement BUR $10 = (8/7)*100$	18
	2. Number of persons and entities with 2 or more recorded violations in the last 3 years as a % of the total number of violations	2	1.7	115%					Target is maximum. 4 out of 239 violators have two or more violations. $1.7\% = (4/239)*100\%$ $\% \text{ Accomp} = [(\text{Target-Accomp})/\text{Target}]*100\% + 100\%$ $\% \text{ Accomp} = [(2-1.7)/2]*100\%+100\%$ $\% \text{ Accomp} = 115\%$ $100\% = (17/17)*100\%$
	3. Percentage of detected violations that are resolved or referred for prosecution within 7 days	80%	100%	125%					
					84399	84092	84091	100%	
								100%	

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VISION

Palawan, an innovative and dynamic global center of sustainable development.

MISSION

PCSDS as the driver of environmental conservation and inclusive development in Palawan, a biosphere reserve and science-for-sustainability site, guided by the Strategic Environmental Plan.



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